

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NOS. 98-589-C & 98-612-C - ORDER NO. 1999-40

JANUARY 19, 1999

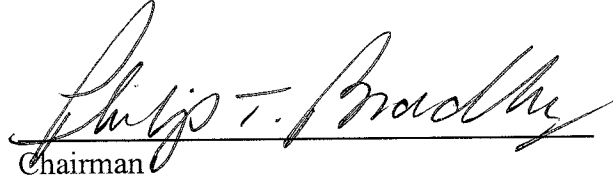
IN RE: <b>Docket No. 98-589-C</b> - Petition of Intermedia	)	ORDER
Communications, Inc. for Arbitration with	)	GRANTING
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to	)	PARTICIPANT
the Telecommunications Act of 1996.	)	STATUS
	)	
AND	)	
	)	
<b>Docket No. 98-612-C</b> - Petition of e.spire	)	
Communications, Inc. and American Communi-	)	
cation Services of Charleston, Inc., American	)	
Communication Services of Columbia, Inc.,	)	
American Communications Services of	)	
Greenville, Inc., American Communications	)	
Services of Spartanburg, Inc. for Arbitration of	)	
an Interconnection Agreement with BellSouth	)	
Telecommunications, Inc. Pursuant to	)	
Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications	)	
Act of 1996.	)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the letter filed by the Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina ("Consumer Advocate") by which the Consumer Advocate requests the opportunity to participate in the above-referenced arbitration matters. The Consumer Advocate requests that he be allowed to participate in this proceeding in the same manner as he participated in arbitration proceedings involving AT&T - BellSouth and AT&T - GTE.

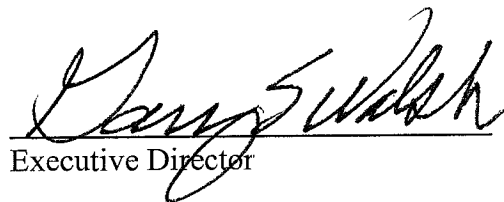
Upon consideration of the request of the Consumer Advocate, the Commission believes and so finds that the Consumer Advocate should be admitted to the proceeding as a "Participant" as has been granted previously in prior dockets. As a "Participant," the Consumer Advocate is allowed the opportunity to observe the proceeding; to file with the Commission a nonbinding list of proposed questions pursuant to the scheduling order; and to make opening and closing statements to the Commission during the arbitration hearing. This grant of "Participant" status does not confer status as a party of record, but merely allows the Consumer Advocate to participate in the proceeding as set forth herein.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)